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President's 8th-notes

SCL: Love It or List It?

There is a weekly TV show that features a designer and a real estate broker. Each week, they challenge a displeased couple to either remodel their home or list it for sale. The designer works up a plan based on the couple's budget and begins the remodeling work while the broker looks for other houses in the area the home-owning couple might like better. When the remodeling is completed and the potential new homes have been shown, the homeowners can decide if they like their home and want to keep it or want to sell it and move to a new house. The co-hosts then ask "Are you going to love it -- or list it?" (Commercial break while the viewer remains in suspense.)

Lately, SCL seems to be one of those homes. Long time members tell of what it was like in an earlier heyday. Recent members drift away. Other composer organizations like SEAMUS, CMS and SCI crowd in. College budgets are obviously tighter and more troublesome, probably thanks mostly to the 2008 Wall Street Banking Festival. SCL's roof line is beginning to sag. Some remodeling may be in order. Which members will contribute and participate?

This past 2012 forum partnered with UA-Huntsville's Annual New Music Festival. While it was a successful forum, it wasn't able to do what one of the aims of SCL has long been - to try to perform a submission from every member. This year, time and resources were the reasons. If SCL is to be a primary festival in 2013, it will need a college host and quite likely the co-hosting assistance of one or two nearby colleges. Additionally, NACUSA is interested in partnering on a forum. As budgets and resources are more limited, we may have to find ways for more members to help out. Additionally, our funds are low. We need more members or higher dues. More members is better. But we also need input from you! It's survey time. Tell us what you want SCL to look like in the future. That's right. Pick up to four things you want to see happen (with a few details, please). Send them to me at ken@kendavies.net with "SCL Remodel" in the subject line. I'll share these with the board (no names) and report on the topics next newsletter. Now, if I don't hear from more than 30 of you, I'll take that as discouraging. It's SCL remodeling time. Are we going to Love It - or List It?

2012 Southeastern Composers League Forum

The Southeastern Composers League would like to thank Don Bowyer and the faculty, staff, students, and performers at University of Alabama in Huntsville who participated at the UAHuntsville New Music Festival 2012. As you know, this year's SCL Forum performances were shared with UAHuntsville New Music Festival 2012. SCL Member Performances on this year's forum were:

William Price - Sans Titre VII for trumpet.

Mark Prince Lee - Three Pieces from "The Poetics of Silence. The Necessity of Form: KAFKAMUSIK" (1. Letter to His Father 2. The Trial 3. A Country Doctor) for violin, clarinet and cello.

Mark Francis - Gulf Coast for brass quintet.

Ron Wray - Diversion for clarinet, bassoon & piano.

Ron Wray - Undaunted for clarinet.

Roger C. Vogel - Two Songs (1. Music 2. The Frog, He Fly...Almost) for soprano & flute.

Andrey Kasparov - Cadenza for LvB for piano.

Gil Trythall - Toccata 2011 for piano with speaking.

Michael Kallstrom - The Falling Cinders of Time for flute.

Michael Young - Prelude and Fugue No. 11 in C-sharp minor, "The Clock" for piano.

Ken Davies - Brain Fantasies for horn and two-channel audio.

Christopher Cook - The Blue Marble for electronic audio.

Jonathan McNair - Sonata for Solo Percussion.

Joe L. Alexander - Soundscapes for Guitar and Soundfile.

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May 2012

Arnold Salop
Memorial
Competition

Salop/Slates Memorial Composition Competitions

Results of the Salop/Slates Memorial Competitions for Undergraduate and Graduate student composers:

There was a healthy response to the competition and a number of strong scores in each category, such that the four adjudicators had a challenge to determine which scores should be awarded prizes.

Please join the officers and membership of SCL in congratulating these students for their fine work, and in continuing to encourage all composition students to write music and submit their works to opportunities such as the Salop/Slates competitions.

In the **Arnold Salop Memorial Competition** for **Undergraduate** Composition students, there was a tie for First place:

Tango by John Rose, for mixed quintet; and

Hypnogogia for percussion ensemble, by Alexander Welch.

Honorable Mention was awarded to *Decay* for string quintet, by Liliya Ugay.



John Rose



Alexander Welch



Liliya Ugay

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May 2012

Phillip Slaters
Memorial
Competition

Treasures
Note

Salop/Slaters Memorial Composition Competitions

For the **Phillip Slaters Memorial Competition** for **Graduate** Composition students, there was also a tie for First place:

Brass Quintet by John Hennecken; and
Sonata for Cello by Brian Kelly.

Honorable Mention was awarded to Ashley Floyd for *L'esprit de l'escalier*, for bass clarinet, bassoon, and cello.



John Hennecken



Brian Kelly



Ashley Floyd

SCL Dues for 2012

This is a last call for 2012 dues. Without the support of its membership, the Southeastern Composers League can't exist. It's been around for almost 65 years. SCL depends on your support. A failure to pay may result in you being dropped from the rolls. The deadline is May 31.

Dues can be sent to:

Mark Francis
1717 Midwestern Parkway, #135
Wichita Falls, TX 76302.

Dues can also be paid online through Paypal, go to the SCL website:

www.SoutheasternComposersLeague.org

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May 2012

Member News



Jim Puckett



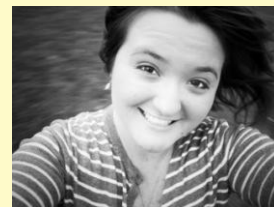
Byron Petty

Member News

Jim Puckett

Soprano Leah Ralston performed a newly composed work on Saturday, April 21, 2012 as part of her Senior Recital at Mount Vernon Nazarene University (Mount Vernon, Ohio).

Meditation on “Evening” is a short art song by Jim Puckett, based on the poem by Emily Dickinson. Ralston’s diverse program included works by Handel, Barber, Strauss, Bellini, in addition to Puckett’s new work.



Pianist Raquel Teare premiered In the Gardens, a piano suite inspired by seasonal scenes experienced at Schnormeier Gardens located in Gambier, Ohio. “This piece has been more than a year in the making,” says Puckett, “I walked the gardens again and again, taking photos and seeing the changes that occur throughout the year. This beautiful place has been so inspiring, and it has been my goal to capture some of that beauty through music.” The concert took place on April 23, 2012 at the Ludwig Recital Hall in the on the campus of Kent State University (Kent, Ohio) and also included Ralston’s second concert performance of Meditation on “Evening”.

For more information visit jim@jimpuckettmusic.com

Byron Petty

Byron Petty's Phantom Encounters for french horn and piano was performed by Dr. Wallace Easter (VA Tech.) and Dr. Shuko Watanabe (W&L Univ.) on March 2, 2012 at the Southeastern Horn Workshop at Tennessee Tech. in Cookeville, TN.

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May 2012

Member News



Kenyon Wilson

Member News

Kenyon Wilson

Kenyon Wilson received a commission from the International Music Camp in North Dakota to compose a tuba/euphonium quartet in memory of euphoniumist Harold Brasch. The piece will be premiered at the camp during this fall's Oktubafest program.

Jonathan McNair

Jonathan McNair's duo for flute and cello "Interior States" was performed at the Kentucky Flute Festival, held at Western Kentucky University, Jan. 14, 2012. McNair was a guest composer at University of Northern Colorado, Feb. 8-9, 2012, with a premiere of a woodwind trio composed for the occasion titled "The Gathering." His "Sonata for Solo Percussion" was performed at the 2012 Forum in Huntsville. His "Prayer for Peace" was performed in a setting for SSA women's choir, violin, and piano, at UT-Chattanooga on April 19, 2012. And along with SCL member Michael Kallstrom, McNair contributed a new work to the CageFest, held at the Barking Legs Theater in Chattanooga, April 20-21. CageFest was a celebration of the collaborations of John Cage and choreographer Merce Cunningham. Six composers/musicians were paired with six Chattanooga-based choreographers, to create parallel works responding to a shared essay. "Coexistence," McNair's work for CageFest will also be featured in the spring program of Ballet Tennessee, on May 18. Finally, his work "Digressions" for violin and piano will be performed on May 13 on the "Sounds New" series in San Francisco by Herb Bielawa and friends.



Jonathan McNair

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May 2012

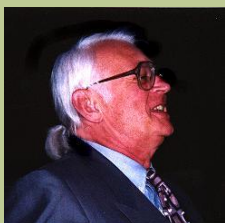
Member News



John Mac Lean



Ken Davies



Gil Trythall

Member News

John Mac Lean

John Mac Lean During the last week of July, 2011, while I was performing chamber music at Scripps College, Claremont, CA, I heard three of my recent works played quite nicely: Piano Quartet, 'Cello Quintet and String quartet no. 3. At the end of last December, I completed my 3-movement Duo for Violin and Viola.

Ken Davies

Ken's SATB choral anthem Who Shall Separate Us From The Love of Christ? was performed during Easter Holy Week by the Harvard Choral Fellows directed by Carson Cooman at The Memorial Church at Harvard University.

Kenvad Music, Ken Davies' publisher, has released three intermediate etude books by Ken: Read Tenor Clef Now for bassoon-trombone-euphonium-cello-double bass; Read Alto Clef Now for trombone or for violin switching to viola; 20 Pieces in Changing Meters for trombone, formerly published by Puna Music in 1999; Cherry Classic Music has published his 16 Changing Meter Pieces for tuba and euphonium.

Gil Trythall

Toccata for Piano performed by Lya M. Cartwright at the 2012 SCL Forum University of Alabama at Huntsville, Feb. 10, 2012. Sonata for Piano and Computer premiered by James Miltenberger at West Virginia University on March 18, 2012. Variations on a Portuguese Fado for saxophone quartet premiered at Brookhaven College, Dallas, May 5, 2012.

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May 2012

Member News



Betty Wishart

Student News

Vox Novus 60x60
Call for Works

Member News

Betty Wishart

On March 15, 2012, Dr. Earnest Lamb, Chair of Performing Arts at Fayetteville State University, premiered *The Conversation and Stress*, two cello solos written for him by Betty Wishart. Also featured on the concert at Campbell University was *Experience*, a string quartet by Wishart.

Earlier in the year Dr. Jeri-Mae Astolfi performed Wishart's *Toccatà II* at the International Alliance for Women in Music conference in Flagstaff, Arizona.

Student News

Co-winner of the Arnold Salop competition, John Rose, had his "Tango" premiered on April 5, 2012 at UT-Chattanooga, on the Campus Composers Concert. Last year's Salop winner, Casey Edwards, gave his senior composition recital on March 22, 2012, also at UT-Chattanooga. His winning piano work "The Circus Macabre" was one of five selections on the program.

Vox Novus 60x60

Call for Works

Robert Voisey, NYC composer and organizer of Vox Novus, 60x60 and Composer's Voice has cordially invited members of SCL to submit works to 60x60. Some SCL members have already been featured in past years. 60x60 is 60 one minute recorded audio works by 60 different composers/sound artists. Those selected are featured in 60 minute concert "mixes" in NYC and elsewhere having presented more than 250 performances in over 20 countries. Rob says: "it would be great to get a bunch of works from the Southeast. See <http://www.60x60.com/calls/>. There are no submission fees. For more info on Vox Novus, see <http://www.voxnovus.com/>.

Letters to the Editor

A few letters have come to SCL that tie into the President's comments and discussions at the business meetings at the last few forums. We have decided to publish them in this section. If you have any comments or other letters you would like to submit, feel free to send them to me, the President or the Officers.

Paul Schreiber

Worries about SCL

My worries about SCL continue. I have been a member since the 70's and I hosted 2 of the Forums while I was teaching for Converse College. I can remember the second one of those when The Nashville Brass Quintet performed for us, we honored John Boda for his support of the League, my former composition professor, Bernhard Heiden, was a special guest and I was president at the time. I think we had a special reception after the last concert, one of which featured our chamber orchestra.

Two suggestions: we need to spend some of Leagues' money to enliven the Forum at least once and what happened to the idea that each of us was going to send a letter (to be composed by one of our members) to institutions of our choosing to promote more interest in the League? I would hate to think that SCL is dying. Do you know the expression, "Advertise or be forgotten"? Our members, and future ones, ought to be thinking MORE about the League. I wonder if we ought to send out a survey to find out what our members actually think of the League. And ask very pertinent questions. I guess it is a fact that most of the members think of what they are getting from the League before they think of what they can give to it. In any event, however, each should think more about his/her future and, consequently, that of the League.

John Mac Lean

Letters to the Editor

Step Up

I've been a member of SCL since 1992. I have served as President, Vice President and Treasurer, twice. I have met most of you and count most of you as friends. My works have been performed for many years on our forums. However, during the last 10 years it has been getting harder and harder to find a host for the forum. I even hosted a SCL Forum in Jackson, MS despite not being on the faculty of any university or college there. I've heard many excuses for many years. Personally, I'm tired of them. This organization gave many of us a place to hear our music when others excluded us. It deserves your loyalty and support. It's a time to man up. We, again, for 2013, do not have a host institution. For those of you who have hosted in the past, thank you. For those of you who haven't: it's your turn. Baste! Step up.

Mark Francis

The Southeastern Composers League

Founded in 1950, the Southeastern Composers' League is an organization comprised of serious classical modern new scored and electronic art music composers and scholars located throughout the southeastern United States. It is one of the oldest organizations of its kind in America. Many of our members fill distinguished faculty positions throughout the universities and educational institutions in the southeastern states (AL, AR, DE, DC, FL, GA, KY, LA, MD, MS, NC, SC, TN, VA, WV). Membership is for, but is not necessarily limited to, these states and Washington DC. Membership options include Composer, Associate and Student Memberships. Any SCL member can assist you in answering questions or in recommending you for a membership. If you are unfamiliar with the organization and would like information, contact one of the Current Officers (below) with your comments and questions. To obtain an application, click the member-new application under Site Navigation. Look for us on the Web: <http://www.southeasterncomposersleague.org> or Facebook – search for “Southeastern Composers League”

Current Officers:

President: Ken Davies - ken@kendavies.net

Vice President: Jonathan McNair - Jonathan-McNair@utc.edu

Secretary: Michael Young - tamiliana@gmail.com

Treasurer: Mark Francis - marklfrancis@hotmail.com